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**DATE:** March 5, 2003

**FILE:** Attorney Docket No. UK999-027  
Serial No. 09/401,676

Facsimile Message From: **TERESA M. HAMLIN**

Please deliver the following pages to:

<b>NAME:</b> Customer Service Group 2100
<b>OF:</b> U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
<b>FAX NUMBER:</b> (703) 746-7239
<b>NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER PAGE:</b> 14
<b>COMMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS</b>
As per the request of Alexis in Customer Service, attached are copies of the Amendment Transmittal, Amendment and Response to Office Action, Change of Correspondence Address, Transmittal of Formal Drawings and Formal Drawings (4 sheets) which were filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 24, 2003 for Application Serial No. 09/401,676. Also attached is a copy of the return stamped postcard indicating receipt in the USPTO on January 29, 2003. Please let us know if you require any additional information. Thank you for your help.

If you do not receive all of the pages, please call us back as soon as possible at (516) 759-2722.

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Attorney Docket No. UK999-027

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Patent Application**

Applicant(s): H.E. Butterworth et al.  
Docket No.: UK999-027  
Serial No.: 09/401,676  
Filing Date: September 22, 1999  
Group: 2156  
Examiner: Christian A. LaForgia

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Signature: Lisa L. Vulpis Date: January 24, 2003

Title: Data Processing Systems and Methods for  
Processing Work Items in Such Systems

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please add new claim 12-14 as follows:

--12. (New) A method of processing work items in a data processing system, comprising:  
effectively providing an interrupt-based mechanism for processing work items, when system utilization is low with respect to work items; and  
effectively providing a polling-based mechanism for processing work items, when system utilization is relatively high with respect to work items.

13. (New) A method as claimed in claim 12 wherein work items are received in accordance with at least one device driver associated with a host system.

14. (New) A method as claimed in claim 12 wherein the data processing system comprises a storage controller.--